

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 10 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the U.S. patent to Lambert.

Claim 12 is objected to.

The drawings are objected to as well.

In connection with the Examiner's objection to the drawings, applicants submitted the replacement drawings with the incorporated changes. It is therefore believed that the Examiner's objection to the drawing should be considered as not tenable and should be withdrawn.

Claim 12 has been amended correspondingly to take care of the issue related to the antecedent basis. It is believed that the objection to claim 12 should also be considered as not tenable and should be withdrawn.

In connection with the Examiner's rejection of the claims over the art, applicants cancelled claims 10 and 16 without prejudice.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 11-13 has been gratefully acknowledged.

In connection with the Examiner's indication of the allowability of these claims, claims 11, 12 and 13 have been amended by incorporating into them the features of claim 10, the broadest independent claim which they were dependent.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the thusly amended claims 11, 12 and 13 which are now independent claims should be considered as allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance; he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,
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